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THE BIRTHPLACE OF COLUMBIA LODGE, No. 91, F. & A. M.



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PLACE OF MEETING OF THE GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA,
STATE HOUSE (INDEPENDENCE HALL), 1800-1802,
CHESTNUT STREET, BETWEEN FIFTH AND SIXTH, SOUTH SIDE,
PHILADELPHIA.

*Freemasons. Philadelphia. Columbia
Lodge, No. 91.*

1801

1916

Historical Sketch
of
Columbia Lodge, No. 91
F. & A. M.

READ AT THE STATED MEETING HELD MONDAY, OCTOBER
23, 1916, CELEBRATING THE ONE HUNDRED AND
FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY
ALSO THE

GOLDEN MASONIC JUBILEE
1866-1916

OF
BROTHER P. M. JULIUS F. SACHSE

Librarian and Curator
Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania



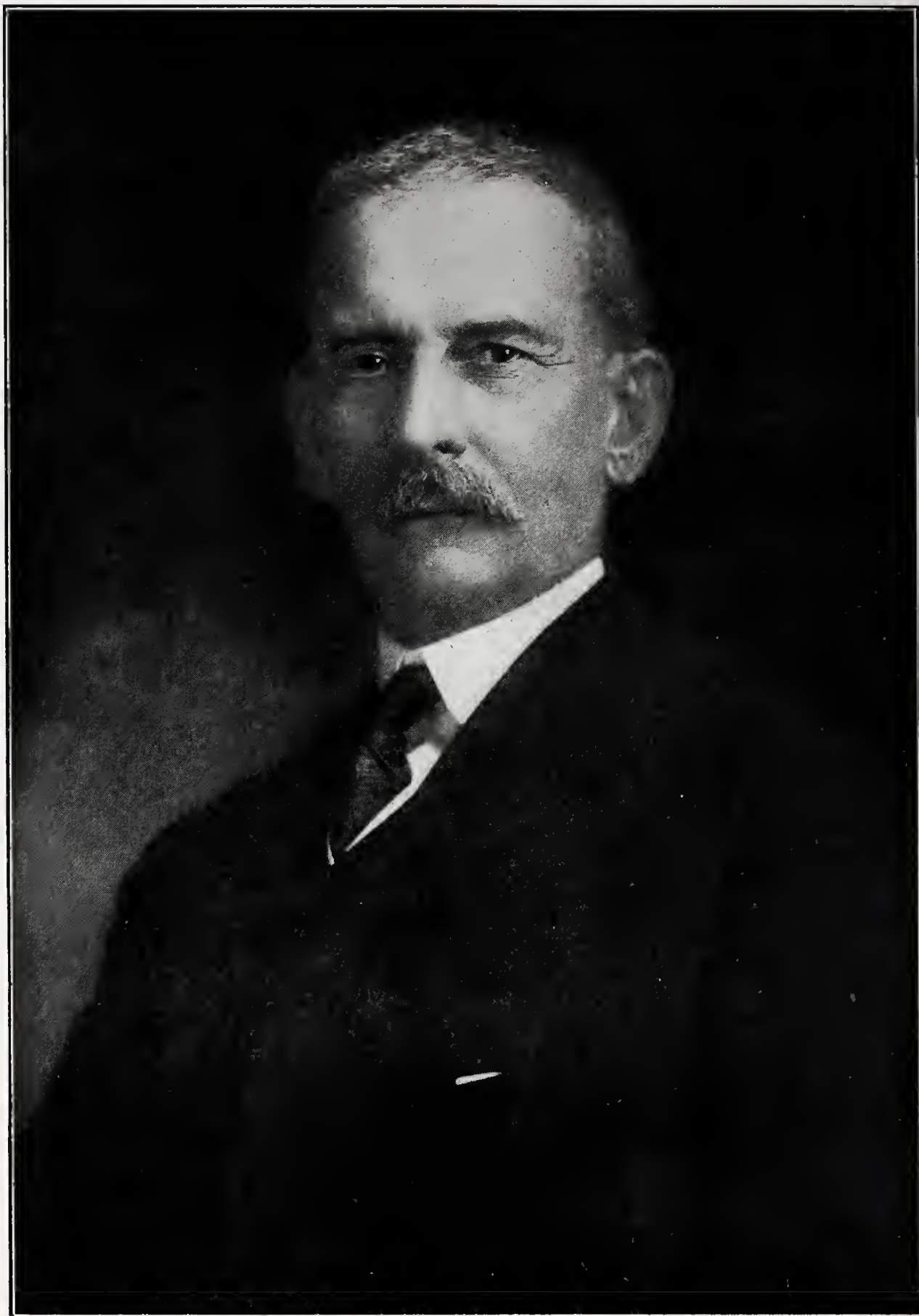
PHILADELPHIA
1916

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of which this is No. 551





Louis Arthur Waters

R. W. GRAND MASTER, 1916-1917.

Louis A. Watres.
R. W. Grand Master.

Office of the
R. W. Grand Master
F. & A. Masons in Pennsylvania,
Masonic Temple. Philadelphia,

SCRANTON, PA., November 7, 1916.

MR. JULIUS F. SACHSE,
Librarian and Curator,
Masonic Temple,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir and Brother:

Replying to your letter of the 6th instant; I have looked over the set of galleys you sent me, and I am glad to add my approval thereto.

I congratulate you upon the history of Columbia Lodge which you prepared, and also upon having been the recipient of so high an honor as was conferred upon you.

I return herewith the set of galleys.

Cordially and fraternally,

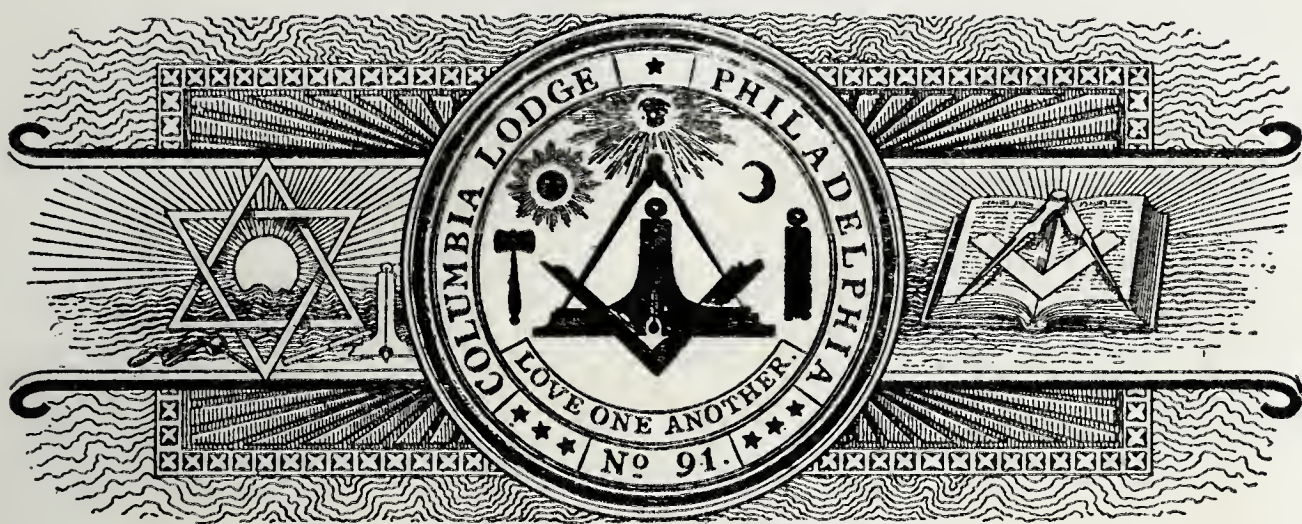
Louis A. Watres

Grand Master.



Harry G. Kammerer

W. M. COLUMBIA LODGE, No. 91, F. & A. M., 1916.



AT the Stated Meeting of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, held Monday evening, October 23, 1916, Brother Harry G. Kammerer, W.M., addressing the Lodge stated:

Brethren: I do not know whether you have given it a thought, that we have arrived at an event of unusual importance in the life of our Lodge. It was upon an October night, Saturday, October 3, 1801, just one hundred and fifteen years ago, when the first regular meeting of Columbia Lodge No. 91, F. & A. M (then A. Y. M.), was held in Independence Hall in Philadelphia.

Secondly, that several of our living brethren have passed the 50th Masonic Milestone and as we have among those ancient brethren a Past Master of merit and distinction, I could not conscientiously permit this occasion to pass without some formal mention.

At our last Stated Meeting, held Monday evening, September 25, 1916, Brother Past Master Albert E. Burns, moved that a fitting set of Resolutions be drafted as a testimonial, engrossed and presented to Bro. Past Master Julius F. Sachse, upon his Golden

Historical Sketch

Anniversary as a Master Mason; this was seconded and unanimously adopted.

I further took upon myself the liberty of requesting this distinguished Past Master to prepare a short Historical Sketch of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, F. & A. M., which I feel sure will prove interesting as well as instructive.

The Worshipful Master then stated that he had invited quite a few members of the Fraternity who are leaders in their respective occupations and professions, and requested Brother Past Master William P. Kammerer to read the regrets from some who could not attend this 50th Anniversary.*

After which R.W.P.G.M. George B. Orlady was asked to present the Testimonial to Bro. Past Master Julius F. Sachse on behalf of Columbia Lodge No. 91, F. & A. M.

Brother Past Grand Master Orlady handing the Testimonial to Brother Sachse, said:

WORSHIPFUL MASTER AND BRETHREN:

This occasion is so unusual, and the subject of your meeting so unusually deserving of notice, that I express special pleasure in being identified with it.

Pennsylvania stands in a very attractive place in Masonic history. The Grand Lodge of England ranking first (1717)—the Grand Lodge of Ireland ranking second (1729)—the Grand Lodge of Penn-

* Vide Appendix.

At the regular stated meeting of
Columbia Lodge No 91 F & A M
held Sept 25, 1916,
the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

— **Whereas** —

Brother Julius F. Sachse

has been a member of Columbia Lodge No 91, F & A. M. since July 1866 and

— **Whereas** —

Brother Julius F. Sachse has devoted his talents to historical researches of Masonry, thereby gaining deserved personal honors and bringing renown to Columbia Lodge No 91, F & A. M. be it

— **Resolved** —

that Columbia Lodge No 91 F & A. M. express to Brother Julius F. Sachse the hope that he may continue a member of Columbia Lodge No 91 F & A. M. for many years to come and also its deep appreciation of his services for the cause of Masonry

Witness our hand and seal this 25th day of September 1916

Attest:

Harry M. Hermer

Secretary



Harry E. Kammerer

Worshipful Master

TESTIMONIAL PRESENTED TO BRO. P. M. JULIUS F. SACHSE.

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

sylvania ranking third (1731), as to age in our world's work of fraternal life.

In the Colonial and early days of our civil life in Pennsylvania our citizenship was made up largely of English-born persons who brought with them the obligations of the Grand Lodge of England, but on account of chaotic conditions of our civil affairs it was not to be expected that they would have greetings from regularly organized Grand or subordinate bodies in the primitive life where they were practically exiles from home, or soldiers of fortune. However, their interest in their life vows soon developed in organized military and independent bodies, which finally resulted in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, whose history is so well known through the efforts of Brother P.M. Julius F. Sachse the distinguished guest of this evening, that it is not necessary to detail it.

In this long life of 186 years, our records are replete with great names and great accomplishments. As in all organizations, some are leaders in finance, some in martial life, some along industrial and financial lines, and some few in historical and literary research. Of this latter class, Pennsylvania has been singularly fortunate in the names of Past Grand Master Lamberton, Past Grand Master McCalla, Past Grand Master Vaux and others. Without shaking hands with ourselves too much, I think it is

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well to state that under all the Grand Jurisdictions in the United States, Massachusetts with her historian, the late Brother Sereno D. Nickerson, Iowa with her distinguished Librarian, Newton R. Parvin, and Pennsylvania with her librarian, curator and historian, Brother P.M. Julius F. Sachse, take unquestioned rank in being the directing leaders in preserving for future generations the records and deeds over all others connected with Masonic life in the United States.

An accurate historian may not be as much of a genius as an artist who develops a masterpiece in oil or marble, but his practical usefulness in preserving in intelligent form the important things of the world's history, he holds a high place in the intellectual affection of all seekers after knowledge and truth.

This lodge has more than just reasons to be proud of your distinguished member, Brother P.M. Julius F. Sachse, and the historical records he has gathered together and put into convenient and attractive form should be the special study of every member of this lodge, and more particularly of each one of the younger members, that they may the more intelligently understand the real reasons for the formation and the necessity for the continued existence of this great fraternity.

It is not merely the recital of a ritualistic service or the building of elaborate temples, or the dispensing



George B. Orlandy

R. W. PAST GRAND MASTER.

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

of merely financial charities, but stands for everything to better develop mankind and brotherhood.

You have a great treasure mine down stairs, filled with items of incalculable historical interest which cannot be duplicated in any museum in the world. You have records of priceless value and you have in charge a man—your Brother—P.M. Julius F. Sachse, who made it possible for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to invite Masonic students from all over the world, to come to your Temple for authentic research work, you should go there as earnest students and you should appreciate at all times that this librarian and curator is not only your Brother, but a member of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, and who is always ready and willing to aid and assist any worthy Brother who comes to him for authentic information.

I congratulate you on having him on your rolls, and for him I join with you in the sincere wish that he may live long to enjoy his well-earned fame, and that peace and content shall be his portion for all of his days. And it is with great pleasure that I now present him with the Testimonial you have prepared for him for his Golden Masonic Anniversary.

After the presentation, the Worshipful Master Bro. Harry G. Kammerer, calling upon Bro. Past Master Julius F. Sachse, stated:

It affords me great pleasure to be able to call upon you at this time, to read a short Historical Sketch of

Historical Sketch

Columbia Lodge, No. 91, at this, our 115th Anniversary and the 50th Anniversary of your Raising to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason.

Whereupon, the following Historical Sketch of Columbia Lodge No. 91, F. & A. M., was presented:

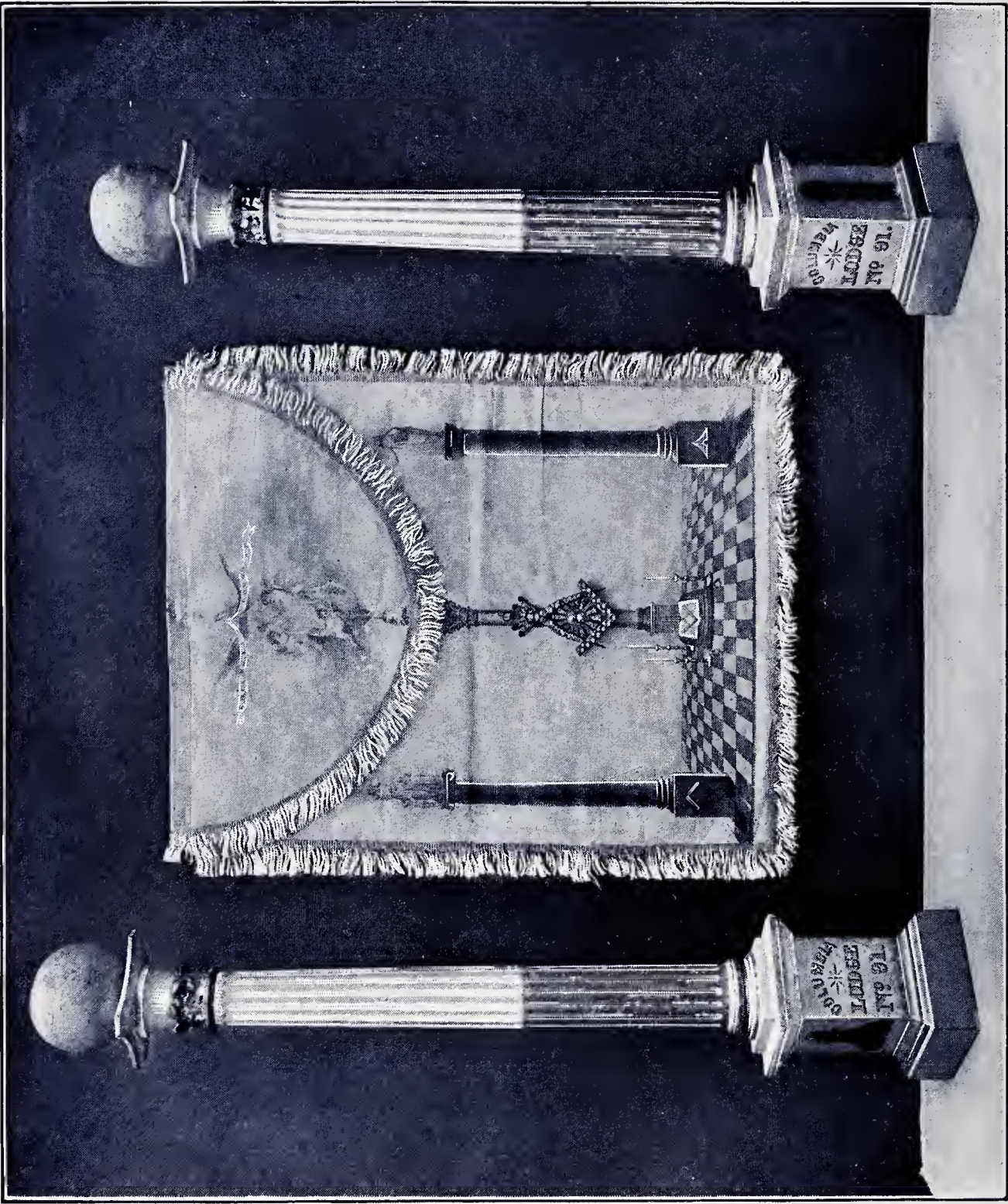




Julius F. Sachse

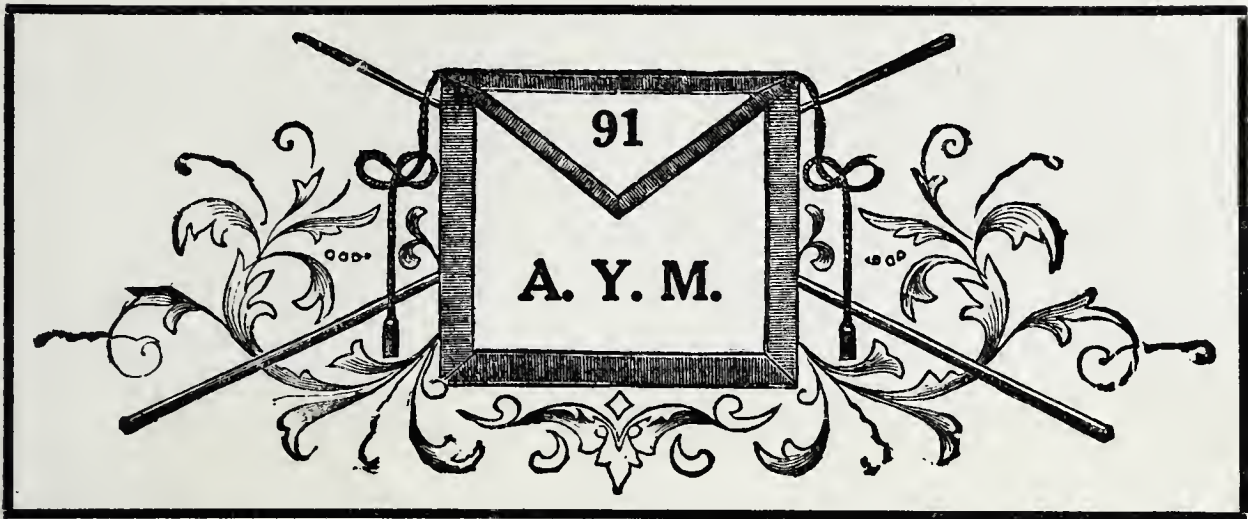
P. M. COLUMBIA LODGE, No. 91, F. & A. M.





RELICS OF COLUMBIA LODGE, No. 91, IN MUSEUM OF GRAND LODGE.

ANCIENT COLUMNS AND APRON ALSO JEWEL OF BRO. GEO. A. BAKER, GRAND SECRETARY, 1797-1816.



BRETHREN: Fifty years is a long span of life. When I recall this night half a century ago, it makes me feel both joyful and sad; joyful that I have been spared to round out fifty years as a member of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, also being the first Past Master in its history, so far as known, to celebrate a Golden Jubilee; sad as I realize that there are but eight members living out of the one hundred and seventy-two members, who were upon our roll as members upon that Stated Meeting night, October 22, 1866, when the speaker was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. Of these brethren one, Bro. Creagmile, is present to-night:

Henry C. Carels,	January 23, 1854
James Merrihew,	June 23, 1862
E. Cooper Shapley,	April 23, 1864
George H. Locker,	June 23, 1864
George A. Hicks,	January 23, 1865
Herman Wischman,	August 27, 1866
Benjamin B. Creagmile,	October 22, 1866
John A. Wilson,	October 22, 1866

Historical Sketch

All of the others have passed to that Grand Lodge above from whose bourne no traveler returns.

The Officers of the Lodge when the speaker was made a Mason were Peter Quinn, W.M., David B. Graham, S.W., and Frank H. Getchell, J.W.

The meeting place of Columbia Lodge at that time was in the small or Blue Lodge Room of the Chestnut Street Hall, then between Seventh and Eighth Streets, upon the north side.

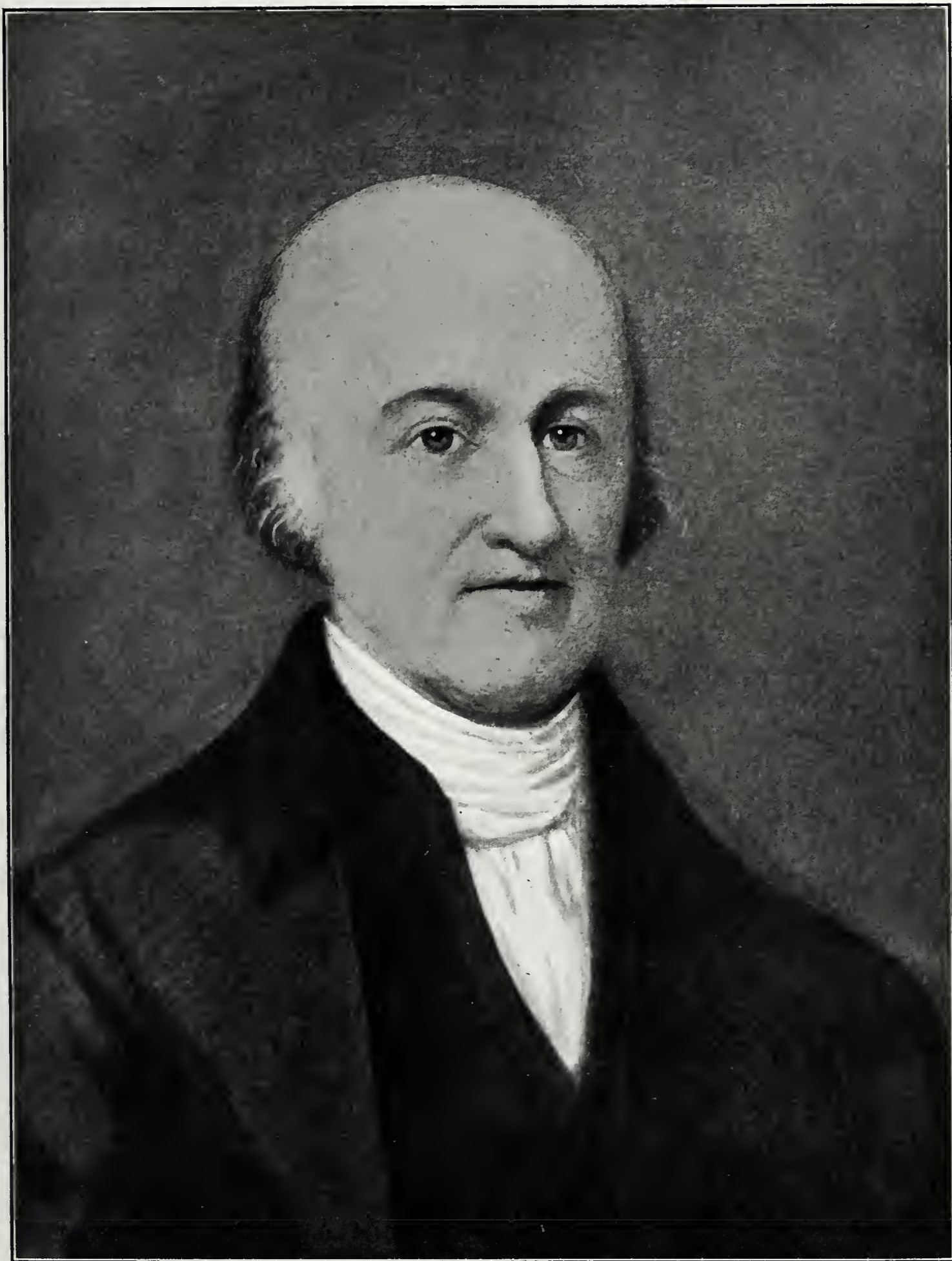
The Lodge Room was much smaller than Ionic Hall, wherein we now meet, and not nearly so elaborately decorated; however, brotherly feeling existed and the work was well done.

Columbia Lodge is the twenty-second oldest Lodge upon the roster of the Grand Lodge at the present time; no less than seventy-seven lodges older than Columbia Lodge have failed to weather the storms and vicissitudes which overtook them within the past century.

Of the ninety-nine warrants granted by the Grand Lodge up to September 7, 1801, eight were duplicate numbers.

Columbia Lodge, No. 91, is now the twelfth in seniority of the Lodges meeting in Philadelphia, Nos. 4, 8, 13, 53 and 73 having gone out of existence.

Columbia Lodge, No. 91, as you all know, was warranted just 115 years ago; this was in the first year of the nineteenth century. The Grand Officers who granted our warrant were Jonathan Bayard



Smith

B. FEB. 21, 1742; D. JUNE 16, 1812.

GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN PENNSYLVANIA, 1789-1794.



Columbia Lodge, No. 91

Smith, R.W.G.M., Israel Israel, R.W.D.G.M., James Milnor, R.W.S.G.W., John W. Van Cleve, R.W.J.G.W., Gavin Hamilton, Grand Treasurer, George A. Baker, Grand Secretary; all men of note in the city, and bright luminaries in the Masonic Horizon.

Another matter that every member should know and be proud of is the fact that Columbia Lodge, No. 91, was constituted in Independence Hall, that Cradle of Liberty, venerated and beloved by the whole American nation; at that time the meeting place of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Its altar was set up in the west room upon the second floor, and it was there within those hallowed walls that Columbia Lodge was constituted, September 7, 1801.

Here the first meeting of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, was held September 19, 1801. It is noted only in a copy of the rough Minutes and appears to have been a somewhat informal one, at which Brother James Gibson was proposed for membership.

The first regular meeting of the newly constituted Lodge of which we have any official record, was held on Saturday, October 3, A. L. 5801. It was opened as an Entered Apprentice Lodge with the following officers in the chair: Thomas Hennessy, W.M., Robert McCullagh, S.W., pro tem (in place of William McCullagh); John Arabin, J.W. Brother James Cannon was elected Treasurer, and Brother

Historical Sketch

William Harvey appointed Secretary. At this meeting Brother James Gibson was elected a member.

There were present ten members and seven visiting brethren, from each of whom was collected the sum of fifty cents.

Among the curious customs in vogue during the early days of our Masonic existence, we will but mention that dues amounting to half a dollar were collected from members nightly and a contribution of fifty cents was also exacted from every visitor present upon any stated meeting night, the only exception being the presiding officers of the R.W. Grand Lodge and visiting brethren beyond the limits of the city and liberties, upon their first visit.

No brother, however, within the city or liberties was permitted to visit any Lodge more than twice unless he was known to be a member of some lodge under the Jurisdiction of the R.W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

The fee for membership of the Lodge were originally, for a Master Mason ten dollars, a Fellow Craft fifteen dollars, and for an Entered Apprentice twenty dollars, the money to be paid immediately by the new member or his recommender.

The fee for initiation was thirty dollars, for which the recommending brother was responsible. By dispensation, the fees were the same, save if an emergency Lodge was convened; then the candidate paid

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

the contingent expenses, except for Tyler's fees.

The Secretary's compensation consisted of fifty cents for every stated meeting and one dollar and fifty cents for each initiation.

The Tyler, who could not be a member of the Lodge which he tyled, received one dollar and fifty cents for every stated meeting night, that he might attend to the duties of his office, and one dollar extra for every initiated brother. The latter sum was paid out of the funds of the Lodge.

Let us now take a short and concise look at the genesis of our Lodge. At the beginning of the century just passed, affairs in the city of Philadelphia were somewhat unsettled and depressed, as a year before Philadelphia had ceased to be the federal capital of the sixteen United States. Legislators and government officials no longer gathered here, the transient population incident to a federal seat of government was scattered, the picturesque foreigners from all parts were less frequent on our streets. The population also had decreased; stores and houses, once in such demand, were now vacant and tenantless. Trade and business for the time being languished, in fact Penn's sylvan town on the Delaware was once again a Quaker City.

It was under these conditions when during the summer of the year 1801 a number of worthy brethren, active in the Masonic fraternity, members of Washington Lodge, No. 59, who, having the good

Historical Sketch

of Freemasonry at heart, conceived a plan that it were well to establish a new Lodge in Philadelphia, one to meet on alternate Saturdays.

In pursuance of this plan a petition for warrant was presented to R.W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and read before that august body at the Grand Quarterly Communication held on Monday, September 7, 1801.

I have the document here to-night and it will be placed upon the altar for the inspection of the brethren.*

Now as to the name "COLUMBIA": at that time the Union composed of sixteen states was popularly known as "COLUMBIA," and even up to the present day, "COLUMBIA" means the United States of America, as innumerable songs and historical references testify.

You will observe that Columbia Lodge, No. 91, is a child of Washington Lodge, No. 59; the ten warrant members were all members of Washington Lodge, No. 59; further the petition was duly recommended by Washington Lodge, No. 59, and Montgomery Lodge, No. 19.

This petition was endorsed by no less than fifty-one prominent brethren, 13 brethren of the French Lodge La Amenite, No. 73, at that time one of the most active Masonic bodies in Pennsylvania. Three brethren from Lodge No. 2, two from Lodge No. 3,

* Original in Archives of Grand Lodge No. 2287, Tray 43.

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

six from Lodge No. 9, two from Lodge No. 51, two from Harmony Lodge, No. 52, four from Concordia Lodge, No. 67, seven from Orange (now Lafayette) Lodge, No. 71, six from Philadelphia Lodge, No. 72.

This petition was read before Grand Lodge at the Grand Quarterly Communication Monday, September 7, 1801, after which it was ordered that the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and that Bro. Grand Secretary make out a warrant accordingly, and that the same be No. 91.

The first regular election for officers of the Lodge was held December 19, A. L. 5801, when the Warrant Officers were elected to serve for the ensuing six months.

This election was held in a Fellow Craft Lodge. The business of the evening not being finished, and the time getting late, and the candles burning low in the sockets, the Lodge adjourned until 4 o'clock the next day, Sunday, December 20, 1801, at which time the Lodge was duly opened in the Entered Apprentice degree and the minutes of the stated meeting read, after which the Entered Apprentice Lodge was closed, for a short space of time, and a Past Masters' Lodge opened for the despatch of business, and Brother William Hennessy was duly installed as W.M. for the ensuing six months. The Past Masters' Lodge was then closed, and an Entered Apprentice Lodge opened, when the other officers were installed in their respective offices, all for a

Historical Sketch

period of six months. This is the only instance known to the writer where a Masonic body was convened in this jurisdiction upon a Sunday for an installation of officers or regular Lodge work.

That the social feature of the Lodge was not neglected at that early day may be gleaned from a minute made at the same meeting whereby it was resolved, "that this Lodge is to be at no more expense for suppers than the W.M. may in his judgment think proper until next Saint John's Day."

At the Stated Meeting of the Lodge, June 5, 1802, a subscription paper was handed around and the sum of one hundred and fifteen dollars was subscribed by the members of the Lodge to be loaned to R.W. Grand Lodge, towards carrying on the work on Freemasons Hall on Filbert street in the city of Philadelphia.

The last of the twenty meetings of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, held at the State House was the extra meeting on December 21, 1802, at which time it was resolved to procure two columns to be carried in the procession incident to the dedication of the Pennsylvania Freemasons' Hall on the south side of Filbert Street above Eighth Street, December 27, 1802. These two columns are now in the Museum of the Grand Lodge, and to-night are upon the pedestal of the Senior and Junior Wardens.*

* No. 39, Cabinet 20.

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

This procession was the largest and finest Masonic display thus far seen in the Western World.

Upon this gala occasion the brethren assembled at 9 o'clock in the morning, in the Universalist Church on Lombard street, between 4th and 5th streets. A procession consisting of 24 Lodges was formed and moved at high twelve. The route was down Lombard to Second to Chestnut to Fourth to Market, thence to Eighth and Filbert.

It was headed by two Tylers with drawn swords, followed by a band of musicians, then came Columbia Lodge, No. 91, led by two brethren carrying white wands.

Another matter of interest to us was that the first lodge to hold its regular stated meeting in the new Freemasons' Hall was our own Columbia, No. 91, viz.: Saturday, January 1, 1803.

The Lodge now being installed in its new habitation, a change was made in the fees of the Lodge. To meet the exigencies of the times a general reduction was made, namely: the fee for admission of a Master Mason was reduced from ten to five dollars, a Fellow Craft from fifteen to ten dollars, and Entered Apprentice from twenty to fifteen dollars; the initiation fee was lowered from thirty to twenty-four dollars.

An interesting resolution offered and passed at this meeting authorized a payment out of the funds of the Lodge of the bills of expense incurred by this

Historical Sketch

Lodge in entertaining the Grand Officers on last Saint Johns' Day, the day upon which the Filbert Street Hall was dedicated.

Early in the year 1803, after its installation in the new Freemasons' Hall in Filbert Street, Columbia Lodge, No. 91, entered upon an era of prosperity with plenty of work and good attendance of members and visitors. To meet the demands and requirements of the Lodge it was resolved at the February meeting in 1803 "to procure a draft or design for a certificate plate and seal for the use of the Lodge. Final action upon this subject was taken at the May meeting, when it was resolved to adopt the design submitted and complete the plate and seal providing the cost would not exceed the sum of one hundred and twenty-nine dollars.* It was further stipulated that the seal was to bear the motto "Love One Another."† The engraving of the plate and seal was not finished until March, 1804, when the committee in charge reported that they had attended to their duty, and had drawn orders on the Treasurer to the amount of one hundred and thirty-one dollars, also that twenty-five copies of blank certificates had been printed and were to be produced at the next meeting. The committee then presented a bill amounting to eight dollars and twelve and one half cents, covering the expense incurred while performing said duty.

* No. 37, Tray 23.

† No. 4069, Cabinet 30.



REDUCED FAC-SIMILE OF ORIGINAL CERTIFICATE OF COLUMBIA LODGE, No. 91.

COPPER PLATE IN ARCHIVES OF GRAND LODGE.

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

The original plate of this certificate and the die and press of the seal are still among the archives of the Lodge. The design of the certificate was an elaborate one, chaste in design and artistic in execution. The plate measures $18\frac{3}{4} \times 14$ inches and is now badly scratched. Under the direction of the writer the plate was cleaned as best we could and a few impressions were taken to put on file in the Library of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and at the Historical Society.*

Specimen impressions of both historic plates, also satin aprons printed from the plates are here for the inspection of the Brethren.†

The chief features of the emblematic design are three tall columns, representing the three orders of architecture, namely: Tuscan, Ionic, and Corinthian. They are surmounted by three female figures representing Faith, Hope and Charity. Beside the latter are grouped two infants, while she has one in her arms.

Upon the base of the columns are shown the square, plumb and level. In two spaces between the columns the certificate is engraved in English on the left and in French on the right. They were signed by the three officers and the Secretary and Treasurer. The columns rested upon a tessellated floor. At the base of the middle one is placed a cushion upon

* No. 5802, Tray 84.

† No. 1042, Tray 112.

Historical Sketch

which is seen the Holy Bible supporting the square and compasses, around which are the three symbolic lights. Above this design is an ornamental vignette, showing three cupids, one holding a plumb line in its right hand and in the other a trowel, compasses and pen.

The two above are supporting a "hanging," showing a sword, square, and compasses with the letter "G," while in their hands they hold a candle, one obtaining light from the other. Above this group is the all-seeing eye, beneath which is an heraldic eagle, bearing a scroll with the legend "Columbia Lodge, No. 91." In the cloud massing below are seen upon opposite sides the new moon and seven stars, and a sunburst.

No engraver's name is to be found upon the plate, but from its general appearance the work of Brothers Edwin and Strickland is indicated. The plate as originally engraved differed in some particulars from its present condition. A close examination of the plate shows that alterations were made at a later date. This is proved by a bill rendered by W. Mason, November 27, 1843, for altering and mending the certificate plate of the Lodge, the cost of which was five dollars, sixty-two and one half cents.

There is another engraved copper plate in the possession of the Lodge evidently of a somewhat later date. It is plainer in design and was evidently intended for use by the craft at large.

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

Columbia Lodge, No. 91, during these years for some reason became a favorite one with the numerous Spaniards, West Indians, and other foreigners who came to Philadelphia in pursuit of their business or for the express purpose of being brought to Masonic light. The Grand Lodge, while it met in Filbert Street Hall, had under its jurisdiction no less than eight Lodges in San Domingo, all working in the Spanish tongue.* Dispensations were freely granted in these cases and acted upon by Columbia Lodge, No. 91. Among the foreigners of note thus met within our Lodge appears the name of Filipe Martinez, President Judge of the Supreme Court of Carracas, Venezuela. The writer, many years ago, was told in these cases the work was done in the Spanish tongue by Brother Hennessy, or in French by Brother Du Plessis, but no evidence of this can be found. The fact, however, remains that a number of these candidates were not conversant with the English tongue.

To illustrate how active Columbia Lodge, No. 91, was at this period, and how anxious the brethren were for instruction and light, the writer will refer to a resolution passed at the close of 1805, when it was resolved that the Lodge shall convene on every third Saturday of every month after Saint John's Day next, for the purpose of giving and receiving lec-

* Cf. Volume II., *Old Masonic Lodges of Pennsylvania, 1730-1800*, by Julius F. Sachse, Philadelphia, 1913.

Historical Sketch

tures. This was made a By-Law in December, with an amendment that twenty-five cents be collected upon such nights from every brother present. These lecture nights did not prove the success anticipated, as the press of work interfered, and they were soon after abandoned.

The most important action taken by the Lodge at this period, 1805, was the change of meeting night from the first Saturday of the month to the fourth Monday, which it has remained until the present time. The change was brought about as follows: At the May meeting it was moved and seconded "that a committee of three, namely, Brothers Thomas Hennessy, W. McCullough and Peter A. Browne be appointed a committee to wait upon Lodge No. 2 for the purpose of obtaining an exchange of one of their nights of meeting for one of Lodge No. 91, and that they be authorized by this Lodge to draft and present an address to Lodge No. 2, for the above purpose, and that they report the result to this Lodge on the third Saturday of this month.

At the next meeting, June 21, 1806, the committee reported "that Lodge No. 2 unanimously granted their request, and by vote transferred the 4th Monday in every month for the use of Columbia Lodge, No. 91." An extract from the minutes from Lodge No. 2 was also presented to that effect, signed and sealed by the officers. It was then resolved to ex-

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

tend the thanks of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, to Lodge No. 2, "for their goodness in granting the request of this Lodge."*

A motion was then made in writing by Brother Sweeny, and seconded by Brother Hennessy, in the following words, namely: "Resolved that from and after this Saint John's Day (June 24, 1806) the stated meeting of this lodge shall be held on the fourth Monday in every month and that the resolution be annexed to and made a part of the By-Laws." This motion took the usual course and was adopted. The said alteration and exchange were approved by Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication, September 15, A. L. 5806.

When a member of the Lodge had a desire to advance to the Royal Arch, which was then the only degree recognized in Capitular Masonry, he would ask the Lodge for permission, and that they should recommend him to some Holy Royal Arch Chapter, which were then held under the Warrant of a Blue Lodge. If the petitioner was in good Masonic repute, the request was complied with, and the brother passed to the chair by dispensation.

The Freemasons Hall on Filbert street was never a satisfactory one to either the members of Grand Lodge or the Craft in general; all were dissatisfied both with the appearance, inconvenience and inele-

* Cf. Freemasonry in Pennsylvania, Barratt and Sachse, Philadelphia, 1909, Vol. II., p. 331.

Historical Sketch

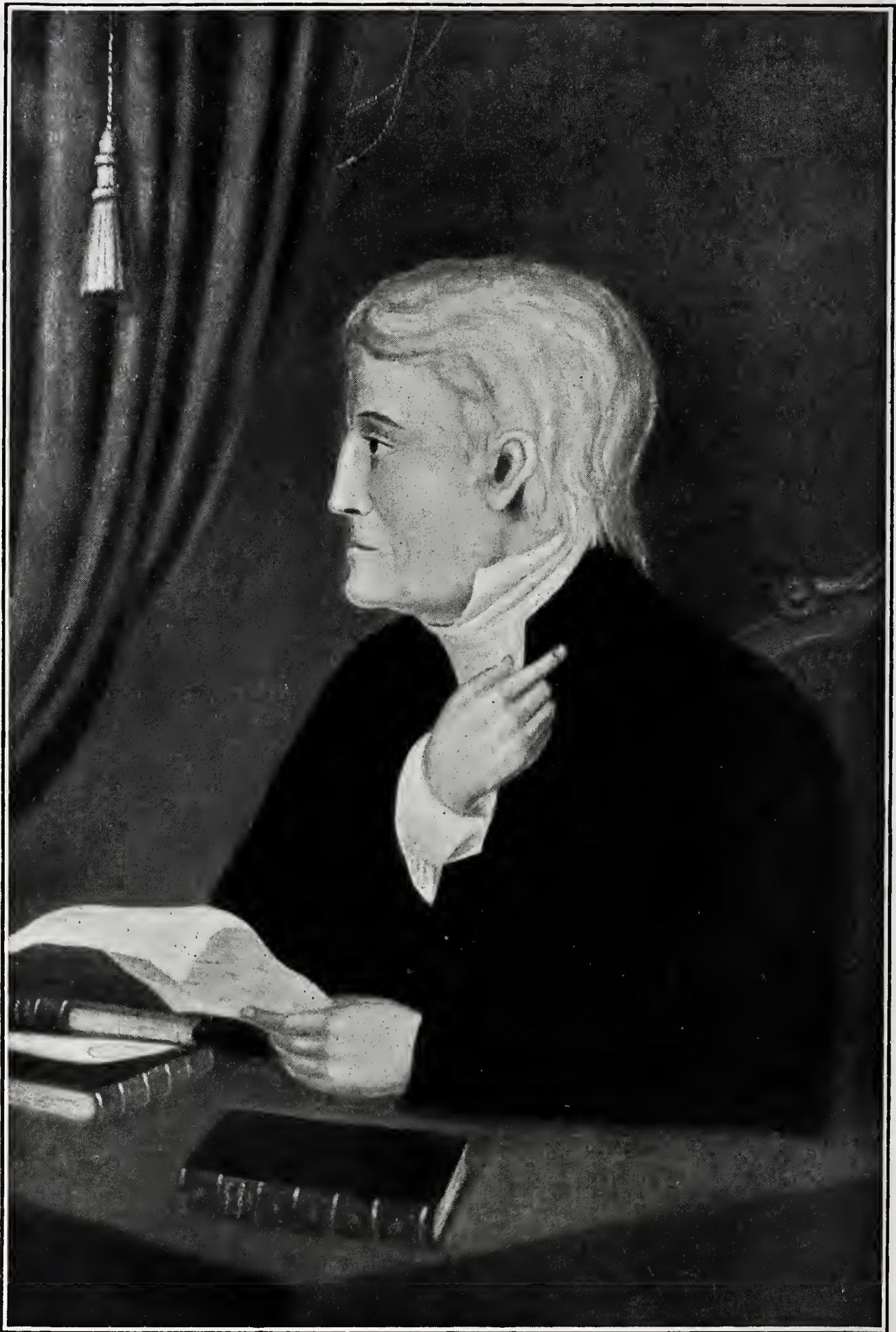
gance of the Hall. Consequently efforts were made to secure a new site, and erect thereon a building which would prove a credit to the fraternity. The result of these efforts was a purchase of a lot on Chestnut Street, between Seventh and Eighth Streets, upon which was to be built the largest and finest Masonic Hall in the world. The making of the plans was intrusted to a young architect, Wm. Strickland, who had not yet arrived at his majority. On June 26, 1809, he sent a petition for initiation and membership to Columbia Lodge, No. 91. This petition he was permitted to withdraw at the July meeting on account of his being under the lawful Masonic age.

At the October meeting, the candidate now having reached the requisite age, his petition was again presented and having been found worthy, William Strickland was duly elected and became a member of Columbia Lodge, No. 91.

As the membership of the Lodge increased in numbers, and the time approached for the laying of the corner stone of the new hall on Chestnut Street, it was resolved to provide new aprons for the officers with the addition of two aprons and jewels for the Masters of Ceremonies.

The new aprons, which cost thirteen dollars, were elaborate affairs, several of which fortunately are still among the archives of the Lodge.*

* Tray 112.



Wm Ball

BORN OCTOBER 26, 1729; DIED MAY 31, 1810.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER OF PENNSYLVANIA "ANCIENTS" 1761-1782. R. W. G. M. 1795.

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

As the time drew near for the dedication of the new hall on Chestnut Street, December 27, 1810, the desire increased with the brethren to make a creditable appearance in the procession and within the Lodge. For this purpose Brothers Hennessy, Cohen and Edwin were appointed to procure new and more elegant jewels and hangings for this Lodge.

One of these jewels has lately been found and is here for your inspection.*

This task was attended to at a cost of ninety-nine dollars, eighty-three and one quarter cents.

On the morning of Thursday, May 31, 1810, the brethren of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, assembled at the Old Freemasons' Hall in Filbert Street to join in paying the last tribute and attend the funeral of the late William Ball, R.W.P.G.M., and who was the first Grand Master of the present Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

At the stated meeting, Monday, December 24, 1810, a petition was presented by ten members who tendered their resignation, at the same time requesting a recommendation from Columbia Lodge for obtaining a Warrant for a New Lodge.

The brethren who thus withdrew from Columbia Lodge immediately proceeded to form a new Lodge, which was constituted January 25, 1811, under the

* No. 5415, Cabinet 33.

Historical Sketch

name of Rising Sun Lodge, No. 126, A. Y. M., with James Hennessy as its first Worshipful Master.

This was the first offspring of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, and it proved to be a vigorous and healthy scion, as well as of honor and credit to the parent Lodge, a condition which has continued down to the present time.

The prosperity of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, during its tenure at the Filbert Street Hall was a continuous one. The attendance of members was satisfactory, visitors were numerous and made to feel welcome, petitions were presented upon every night, candidates balloted for and acted upon, and efforts were made by the officers to keep the Lodge well clothed and the meetings attractive.

At this period Columbia Lodge was one of the brightest luminaries in the Masonic constellation of Pennsylvania, the nightly attendance being from 22 to 36 members, with a considerable number of visiting brethren.

One of the great Masonic events of the nineteenth century was the dedication of the Masonic Hall on Chestnut Street designed by Brother Strickland, of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, June 24, 1811.

Upon this festive occasion Columbia Lodge, No. 91, was again a prominent participant. The procession assembled in the Old Academy on Fourth Street, below Arch, at 8 o'clock in the morning and proceeded from thence at 10 o'clock by the way of



James Clibborn.

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

Market, Eighth, Arch, Sixth and Race Streets to the St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church, where a festive service was held, one of the features of which was an "Oration on Masonry," by the R.W. Grand Master, James Milnor, Esq.

The first meeting of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, held in the Chestnut Street Hall, was upon the evening of September 23, 1811. The meetings were held in the "Grand Lodge and Arch" rooms, the Lodge paying therefor for an annual rental of one hundred dollars.

It was upon this festive occasion when the Right Worshipful Grand Master James Milnor congratulated the brethren upon the increase and prosperity of the Lodge, and concluded with wishing them a long, continuous friendship and brotherly love and wishing them a more numerous accession of members.

During the period while the war with England was rife considerable difficulty was experienced in the matter of collection of dues. October 25, 1813, a committee was appointed to collect and make report in writing and also such answers as they may have received from each individual with whom they had not been successful, in order that the Lodge may discuss the subject, and put the By-Laws in execution. Six months later there were fifteen suspensions for unpaid dues. In attempting to adjust the outstanding accounts of the Lodge several curious complications arose. In one case the three "recom-

Historical Sketch

mendaries" were charged with the balance due upon the initiation fee of a candidate recommended by them. In another case Brother Blake was charged with the whole amount of a brother's unpaid fee, the other two recommenders having been previously expelled.

Brother Blake offered to pay his proportion of the fee. The same course was pursued in another case where Brother Blake was a recommender. The proportionate offer was accepted by the Lodge and paid by Brother Blake, who at the same time offered his resignation.

At the November meeting, 1815, it was resolved to grant a recommendatory certificate to the Worshipful Master J. L. Baker (son of the R.W. Grand Secretary), to enable him to obtain admission in the Holy Arch Chapter. Such action was not an uncommon occurrence at that time.

Up to St. John's Day, 1816, the officers of the Lodge were elected every six months. From this date henceforth the officers were elected annually to serve from Saint John's Day, December 27, to the one next following.

Upon the night of March 9, 1819, Columbia Lodge, No. 91, together with the Grand Lodge and all other city Lodges suffered a great loss by the fire which consumed the Masonic Hall in Chestnut Street. It is not known just what loss Columbia Lodge experienced; certain it is, however, that the

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

books of the Lodge were saved. No mention of this catastrophe appears upon the minutes. The stated meeting of the Lodge was held March 22, 1819, presumably in Old Pennsylvania Freemasons' Hall on Filbert Street, which was then unoccupied. The minutes continue in regular order, the work being resumed just where it was left off at the previous meeting.

Immediate steps were taken by the fraternity to rebuild the Chestnut Street Hall and so energetic were the various committees that on March 1, 1820, just a year after the fire, the new Hall was rededicated to its beneficent purposes with all the customary ceremonies of the craft.

When the hall was rebuilt an apparatus was installed in a separate building in the rear for supplying the hall and Chestnut Street Theatre with carburetted hydrogen gas made from tar. This "Gas House" was thought by many of our worthy citizens to be a menace to the public safety, and threats to burn it down were publicly made. So general and persistent were these threats that at the stated meeting held April 24, 1820, the brethren of No. 91

"Resolved That the Worshipful Master be requested to tender the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania the services of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, for the protection of the Masonic Hall in Chestnut Street from fire by incendiarism and that the Secretary be directed to address a note

Historical Sketch

to the Worshipful Master of this Lodge enclosing a copy of this resolution.”

However, notwithstanding the watchfulness of the brethren of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, and the precautions of the authorities, the gas house was set on fire and totally destroyed December 20, 1820, and thus was the great menace to the city's safety removed.

May 23, 1825, Columbia Mark Lodge, No. 91, which had heretofore been working under the warrant of this Lodge, surrendered it to the Lodge and declined further use of the same as the Constitution of the Grand Chapter had made provision for all Mark Mason and Most Excellent Master Mason Lodges.

May 22, 1826, the Lodge appoints a committee to inquire into the expediency of establishing a charity fund; this culminated by the following report adopted August 25, 1828.

“That after a careful examination of the subject they are convinced that the prosperity as well as the permanent usefulness of this Lodge will be best promoted by appropriating a portion of its ordinary revenue to the increase of the charity fund.”

About 1827 the craze known as the Anti-Masonic excitement began. At first it was but a small flame fanned by a few misguided zealots, most of whom had evidently applied at the tiled portals of our own fraternity and were found wanting. Finally, how-

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

ever, the storm assumed larger proportions and partook of a political nature, which for a time almost threatened to bring about a social revolution.

The storm broke over Pennsylvania with great severity. The dark clouds of bigotry and ignorance for a time threatened to obscure the bright firmament of Freemasonry. But thanks to a number of brethren of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, among whom was our honored member, Samuel H. Perkins, who in spite of the threats of an Anti-Masonic Legislature refused to be sworn, the opponents of Freemasonry accomplished nothing.

During the whole period of Anti-Masonic excitement Columbia Lodge, No. 91, does not appear to have passed a single meeting. It is true at times there was a slim attendance, yet there appears to have been a fair amount of work done by the Lodge during these dark days of persecution and trial. By the wise and conservative course pursued by the officers and brethren Columbia Lodge, No. 91, stood firm within the loyal Masonic column, while sister Lodges of our jurisdiction were suspending meetings, and talks were rife of yielding to popular clamor, and the surrendering of warrants was actually done to so great an extent that on March 27, 1835, the Grand Lodge sent to Columbia Lodge, No. 91, an official list of vacant Lodges. Never for a moment did the brethren of Columbia Lodge waver in their fealty.

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This turbid current of ignorance, bigotry, superstition and political blindness then loose upon our community unfortunately had its reflex upon our financial condition, as well as upon that of our Grand Lodge, who in 1835 felt constrained for financial reasons to sell their hall on Chestnut Street to the Franklin Institute, and removed for the time being to the Washington Hall on the west side of Third Street above Spruce Street.

Early in the year 1831, Brother Thomas Manning, Secretary of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, first printed and issued his Masonic Register, an annual which has continued down to the present time. Of this first issue the Lodge bought four dozen at \$1.25 per dozen.

Perhaps the most interesting incident at the meeting, held December 24, 1832, was the reading of the report of Brother John M. Read, Grand Secretary, in which he says:

“The minutes are very neatly and correctly kept and show the labor of the Lodge in a very advantageous point of view. They attest the prosperity and usefulness of Lodge No. 91, which ranks among its members some of the most valuable Brethren of the order.”

During this year (1832) when the Anti-Masonic fever was at its height, the city and portions of the state were visited by the cholera scourge, and in an epidemic form claimed many victims.

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

In contrast to the idle vaporings of the Anti-Masonic press of that day, we will quote the following extract from the committee report made to Columbia Lodge, No. 91, at the stated meeting, January 28, 1833:

“Your Committee in closing their report, would thankfully acknowledge the mercy of the Supreme Architect of the Universe in preserving every individual member of this Lodge during a season of unusual mortality.

“ (Signed) SAMUEL H. PERKINS,

“ J. Y. BLACK,

“ JAMES BAKER,”

The Grand Lodge vacated the Chestnut Street Hall in December, 1835, and dedicated the Third Street Hall with the usual Masonic procession and services, in both of which Columbia Lodge participated, resplendent in new collars, jewels, and aprons.

The Lodge now installed in its new quarters was hardly settled when the great financial panic of 1837 broke over the country. This also seriously affected the investments of Columbia Lodge, No. 91.

At the February meeting, 1843, we have the unusual spectacle of a Past Master, Brother John R. Tatem, asking to be suspended for non-payment of dues. His prayer was granted.

A communication from the R.W. Grand Lodge was received December 25, 1843, relegating all of

Historical Sketch

the work and business of the Lodge to the Master Masons' Lodge.

The Franklin Institute made strenuous efforts to retain the Chestnut Street Hall, which they had purchased from the Grand Lodge, but the panic of 1837 coming on they were unable to make their payments; they even went so far as to issue fractional notes or Shinplasters for 12½ cents, specimens of which are on exhibition in the Library.

In 1841, the Franklin Institute having defaulted in its payment to the Grand Lodge, the property on Chestnut street was retransferred to the fraternity. But it does not appear to have been occupied nor again used by the fraternity for Masonic purposes, until 1853, when, upon November 21, in the midst of a downpour of rain the corner stone was laid for a new and imposing structure, which was to be used exclusively for Masonic purposes, the only exception being four stores facing on Chestnut Street.*

This Hall of chaste Gothic design, so well remembered by many of us of the older generation, was dedicated with considerable pomp and ceremony September 26, 1855, at which Columbia Lodge, No. 91, was prominently identified. Upon this festive occasion the Brethren of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, assembled at the Musical Fund Hall on Locust Street, above Eighth Street, and were conspicuous

* A Daguerreotype of this Ceremony was taken. An enlargement of same is now in the Library, No. 5812.

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

in the Procession by reason of every member wearing white kid gloves.

The most important event of note during our sojourn in the new Chestnut Street Hall was the withdrawal early in the year 1871, of thirty-five members at the instigation of P.M. R. Lloyd Lee to form a new Lodge. The new Lodge was warranted July 7, 1871, under the name of Crescent Lodge, No. 493. It proved a healthy scion of Old Columbia and is now a bright luminary in the Masonic galaxy.

The Blue Lodge room in the Chestnut Street Hall was our home until the year 1873, when our Lodge was transferred to the Ionic Hall of the New Temple, then the finest in the world.

The various incidents connected with the life of this Lodge during its sojourn in this great Masonic Temple are too new and fresh in the memory of all for the writer to recount here.

Most of the Brethren know how the Centennial of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, was celebrated, September 7, 1901.

There are a few other important matters, not generally known to the Brethren of Lodge No. 91, that should revert to the glory of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, viz.:

It was a member of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, who found the evidence of Franklin's connection with Pennsylvania Freemasonry, thereby establishing the existence of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania prior

Historical Sketch

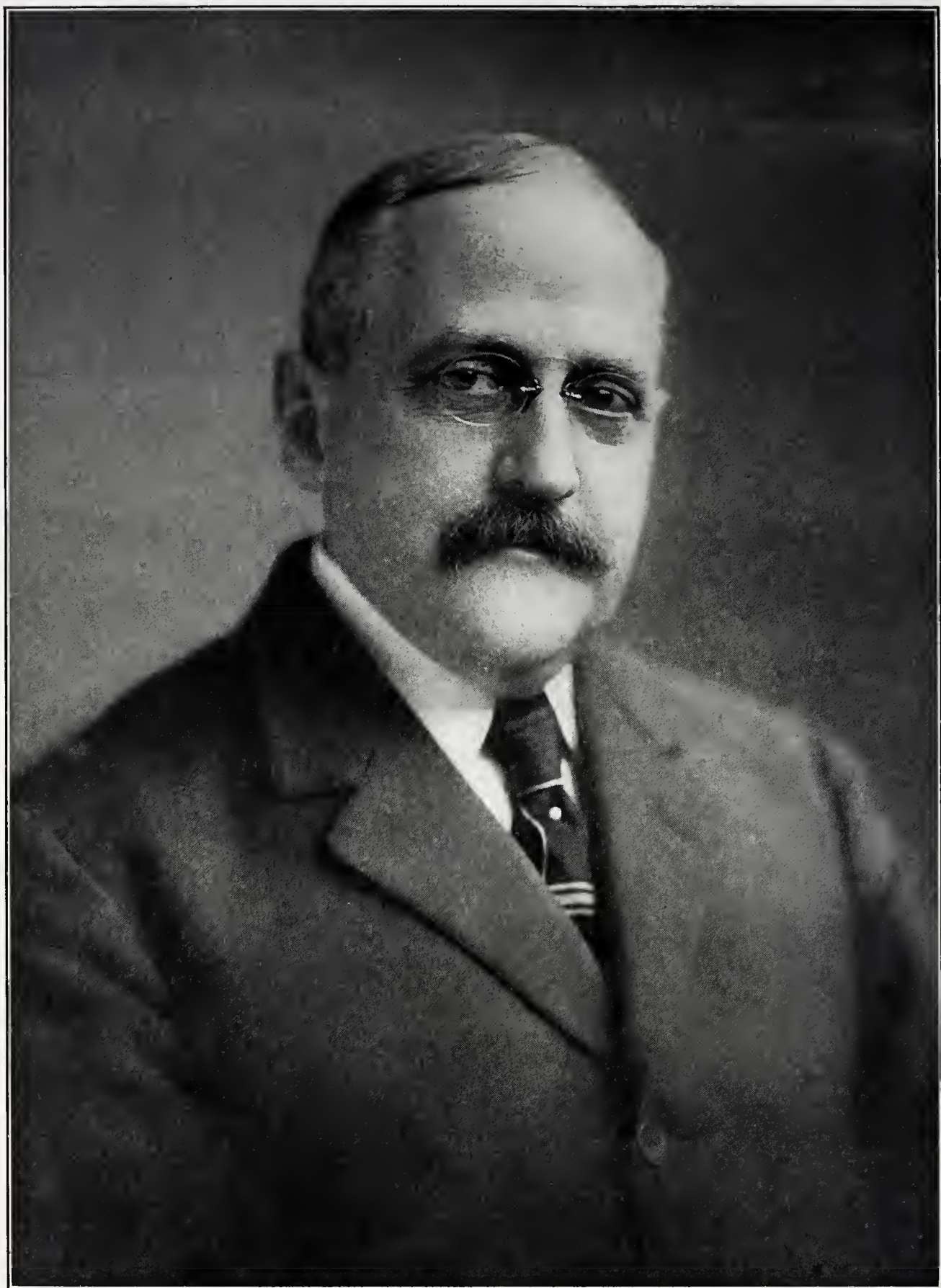
to 1730, thus ending the century-old contention of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for priority.

Then again it was a Brother of Columbia Lodge who unearthed the Minute Book of the Tun Tavern Lodge from 1749–1755, and compiled the History of our Old and Extinct Lodges, both Moderns and Ancients from 1730 to 1800.

Further it was a member of Columbia Lodge, who under the direction of the Committee on Library, gathered together from all parts of the world, the great Collection of Masonic Antiquities in our Museum which now is the greatest and most complete in the world.

In conclusion let me impress upon the younger members of the Lodge, to keep in mind the ideals of the founders and early members of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, familiarize themselves with its early history and that of the prominent members, three of whom, Samuel Badger, Samuel H. Perkins and Samuel C. Perkins, became Grand Masters and one, Peter Le Barbier Duplessis, who served as Deputy Grand Master for five years, while a member of this Lodge. Learn what is between the covers of the Ahiman Rezon; therein is the law that governs every subordinate lodge in this jurisdiction.

The personnel of a Lodge virtually changes in about seven years; new candidates, month after month knock at our well-tyled portals. It is here



*Yours Truly
Wm S Parrott.*

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

where caution is to be exercised; quality and not numbers should be your watchword, quoting the words of Right Worshipful Past Grand Master George W. Guthrie, when addressing this Lodge November, 1911:

“The secret ballot is one of the great safeguards of Freemasonry. It may at times be misused; but I believe that as much if not more, harm has been done in the past by the careless and ill-advised use of the white ball than by the improper use of the black ball.”

Ten years hence the 125th Anniversary of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, will be celebrated; may those who come after us and are present upon that festal occasion look back with equal pride upon those who have gone before.

That harmony and prosperity may continue during the next decade is the fervent wish of your ancient Brother,

JULIUS F. SACHSE.

At the close of above Historical Sketch JUDGE NORRIS S. BARRATT P.M., Lodge No. 2, said:

Worshipful Master and Brethren: It affords me special pleasure to be here this evening and bring you the greetings of the Mother Lodge No. 2 of Ancient York Masons in Pennsylvania upon this your celebration of our Brother Doctor Julius F. Sachse's

Historical Sketch

50th anniversary as a member of Columbia Lodge, No. 91. I know Doctor Sachse well. I may say without exaggeration intimately. I know his history of this Lodge and his many historical articles setting forth the claims of the Pennsylvania Germans, in which he is also regarded as an authority. This is attested by his membership in the American Philosophical Society, The Historical Society of Pennsylvania and his degree of Litt.D., which was well merited. As Librarian of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Curator of its Museum, he has done yeoman service for Pennsylvania Freemasonry. As a member of the Committee on Library for several years past, no one better than myself realizes the debt Pennsylvania Freemasonry owes to him for his literary labors. Then I must not forget to say a word about Freemasonry in Pennsylvania, two volumes of which have been published, of 500 pages each, which we did together and which will remain as his monument when he is no more. No one here tonight understands the great amount of labor involved in such an undertaking—gathering the material, writing it, convincing the Right Worshipful Grand Master of its absolute correctness (because not one word can be printed about Freemasonry without it is first submitted to the Right Worshipful Grand Master and has his approval), obtaining portraits, and illustrations of all kinds for the text, examining and correct-

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

ing proofs, etc., is a task of much nicety requiring knowledge and judgment as well as hard work. But he never faltered and did his full part to which I desire to here bear witness this evening. He was a constant inspiration to me and he is so thorough I do not think while I spent three years on it before I associated him with me in the work that he let me lose sight of anything relating to the subject. He was simply invaluable as collaborator, and it affords me great pleasure and satisfaction to say it publicly to you his brethren upon this his Fiftieth anniversary. He joined this Lodge when I was four years of age. This time of night I would have been in bed at least four hours ago, as I was then upon a strictly milk diet. The American Civil War has come and gone.

We have had twenty-eight Presidents of the United States. Electricity has performed wonders in the telegraph and telephone. War is now fought in the air and under the sea and changes of all sort, too many to relate, have occurred. And our Brother Sachse full of years and honors and vigorous as can be is among us fifty years a Mason. If it were possible I should like to celebrate his 100th anniversary with him. He has done much for this Lodge and Freemasonry, and he is known and recognized as an authority in Masonic history, not only in America but in the old world—a distinction obtained by but few in the United States, and I hope and pray he

Historical Sketch

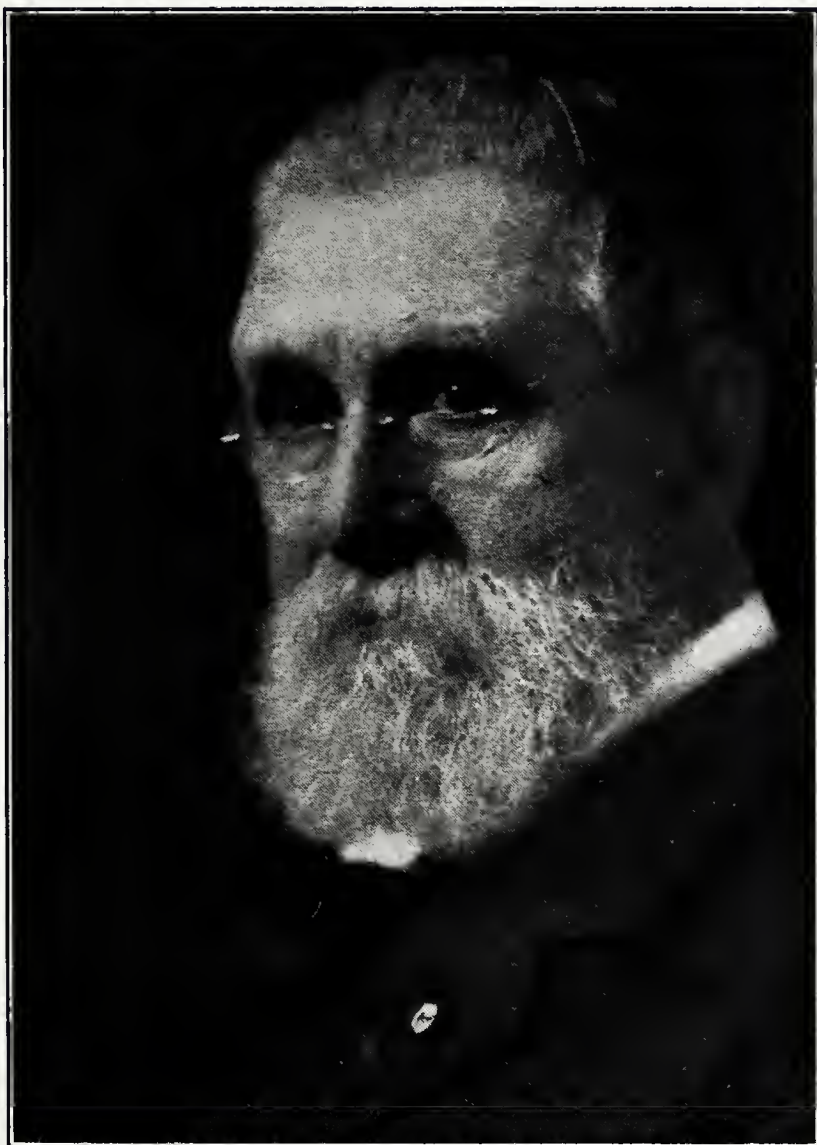
may be long spared to his brethren to continue his most valuable and excellent work.

Addresses were also made by some of the Visiting Brethren among whom were Brothers: James M. Reeves, P.M., Lodge No. 51; Thomas H. Fenton, P.M., Lodge No. 51; J. Lee Patton, P.M., Lodge No. 444; I. E. Linton, W.M., Lodge No. 432; Thomas W. Ayres, P.M., Lodge No. 2; Rev. James Gray Bolton, P.M., Lodge No. 59; George R. Pancoast, W.M., Covenant Lodge No. 161, New Jersey.

The Lodge was then closed and the members and invited guests adjourned to the Grand Banquet Hall.

Columbia Lodge No. 91, H. & A. M.

Golden Anniversary
of



1866

1916

Brother, P. M. Julius M. Sachse
Librarian and Curator, R. W. Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania

Entered July 23rd, 1866

Passed September 24th, 1866

Raised October 22nd, 1866

Monday Evening, October 23rd, 1916

PROGRAM (GRAND BANQUET HALL).

M E N U

OYSTER COCKTAILS

CELERY

OLIVES

GHERKINS

STEWED SNAPPER

VIENNA ROLLS

TENDERLOIN OF BEEF

BROWN SAUCE

SWEET AND WHITE POTATOES

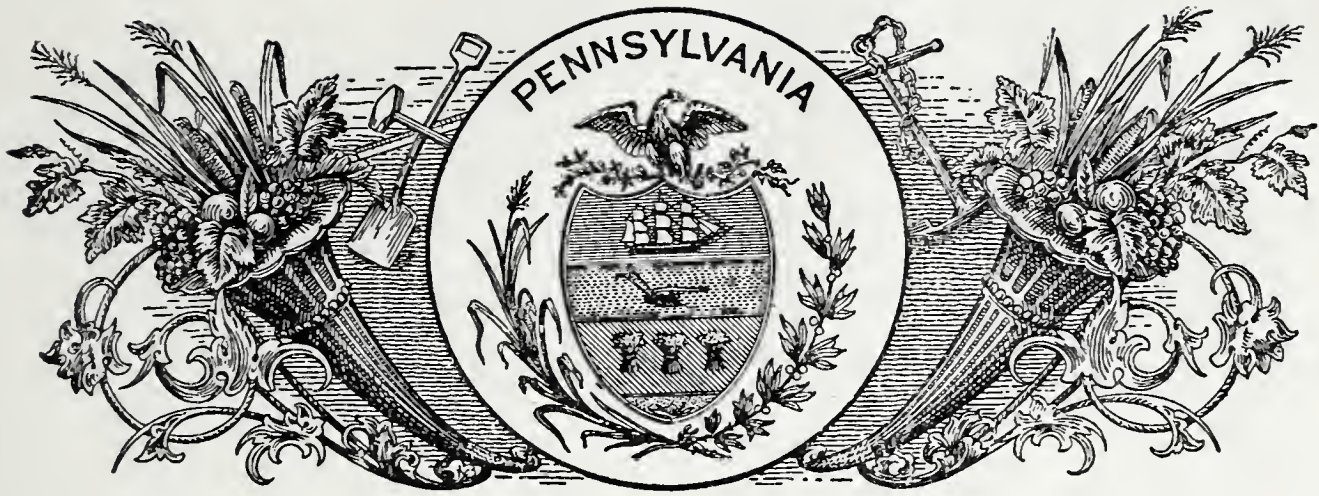
PEAS

LETTUCE AND TOMATO SALAD

HARLEQUIN ICE CREAM

FINE CAKES

COFFEE



APPENDIX.

SCRANTON, PA., October 21, 1916.

J. WARNER HUTCHINS,

1328 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

On return to office I find your letter. Sincerely regret that previous engagements make it absolutely impossible for me to be with you on the twenty-third. Please extend my very best wishes.

LOUIS A. WATRES,

R.W. Grand Master.

October 16th, 1916.

J. WARREN HUTCHINS, ESQ.,

1328 Walnut St.,

Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Brother Hutchins: Regret that I cannot be present at the Golden Masonic Anniversary of Brother Julius F. Sachse, as a member of Columbia Lodge, No. 91 F. & A. M., on the 23d inst.

Am pleased that the brethren of Columbia Lodge were thoughtful enough to honor Brother Sachse upon his arrival at such an important period in his

Historical Sketch

Masonic career. Indeed Columbia Lodge can well feel proud of having such a distinguished Masonic co-worker as a member, and permit me, therefore, to congratulate you all upon the appropriateness of the occasion.

Brother Sachse during his long Masonic life has been a worthy brother, devoted to the Fraternity, and untiring and capable in his field of labor to perpetuate for all time the history of the Fraternity.

His department of Grand Lodge is highly important, and he takes care of it well.

Give him a warm greeting and God's speed.

Fraternally yours,

JAMES B. KRAUSE,

R.W. Dep. Grand Master.

PHILADELPHIA, October 23, 1916.

Dear Sir and Brother: I had hoped to be able to be with Columbia Lodge tonight to join in honoring our distinguished Brother Julius F. Sachse, for whom I entertain so much respect and affection, but I find that I cannot.

Dr. Sachse has by his zeal and learning made the Masonic Library of Pennsylvania known throughout the nation. It is unique among libraries.

The last time I visited Europe Dr. Sachse was on the steamer I crossed on. He and I spent a considerable part of our leisure time together and our talk naturally touched on his work for the Library.

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

In fact, he was then planning to visit various places where he could obtain interesting material for the museum or library. Elbert Hubbard said: "Blessed is that man who has found his work." If he was right, then indeed is Dr. Sachse blessed, for he has found his work.

Will you kindly give him my sincere congratulations and say to him that I hope he may be spared for many years to come, with vigor undiminished and faculties unimpaired, to carry forward the great work he has been doing?

Thanking you and Columbia Lodge for the invitation extended me and wishing you and all your members and guests a most enjoyable evening, I am,

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

ABRAHAM M. BEITLER,

R.W. Junior Grand Warden.

MR. HARRY G. KAMMERER,

3714 N. 8th St.,

Philadelphia, Pa.

PHILADELPHIA, October 15, 1916.

MR. HARRY G. KAMMERER, W.M.,

Columbia Lodge, No. 91.

My Dear Sir and Brother: I thank you for the invitation to be present at the Golden Anniversary of Brother Sachse and other members of your Lodge. It would give me great pleasure to do so, but a pre-

Historical Sketch

vious engagement which will probably take me away from the city will prevent. Will you please convey my heartiest congratulations to Brother Sachse, whom I have known for a great many years and whom I regard as one of the most useful members of the Craft in this jurisdiction, with the best wishes for a long-continued activity in the work he has so zealously taken upon himself for the benefit of Masonry throughout the world.

Also extend my congratulations to the other Masonic veterans of 50 years' standing and hope they may celebrate many anniversaries in good health.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

WM. B. HACKENBURG,

R.W. Grand Treasurer.

October 14, 1916.

MR. HARRY G. KAMMERER,

3718 North 8th Street.

Dear Sir and Brother: Many thanks for your kind invitation to attend the meeting of Columbia Lodge on October the 23rd.

I do not know the others who are celebrating, but the fact that Brother Sachse is to do so would be sufficient for me, and I would only be too glad to come there and do him honor.

I am sorry, however, that I cannot speak positively, but if you will be kind enough to let me come

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

without a definite statement, I will be glad to do so, if it is possible.

With best wishes for a successful meeting,

Fraternally yours,

THOMAS H. FENTON,
Senior Grand Deacon.

PHILADELPHIA, October 13, 1916.

MR. HARRY G. KAMMERER,
1328 Walnut Street,
Philadelphia.

My dear Sir and Brother: Yours of October 12 to hand. I take pleasure in confirming my oral acceptance of your kind invitation to be with you on October 23, in Ionic Hall, Masonic Temple.

Fraternally yours,

GEO. B. ORLADY,
P.R.W. Grand Master.

October 23, 1916.

MR. HARRY G. KAMMERER,
1328 Walnut Street,
Philadelphia.

Dear Brother: I had hoped to have been able to arrange to attend the Columbia Lodge No. 91, F. and A. M., at its meeting tonight, when it will observe the Golden Anniversary of Dr. Sachse's membership, in Ionic Hall.

I greatly regret to find myself so locked up with other engagements that I cannot do so. I send this

Historical Sketch

to congratulate the officers and members of Columbia Lodge on having in Dr. Julius F. Sachse the Oliver Cromwell of Masonic membership in the sturdy old puritanic soldier Julius F. Sachse.

I write this, first, as a brother Mason, and second, as Chairman of the Library Committee, where the knowledge, experience and faithfulness has been of a service that is beyond any value that might be computed for it.

His work in the gathering of books of the history of Freemasonry and his indefatigable exertions to excavate in every direction for the old relics that are being stored in our Museum, is more than remarkable, as he ranks with Columbus as a discoverer in treasure, seeking to rebuild the citizenship of America with true Brother Masons and to educate them in the history and principles of the great fraternity to which we belong.

I remain,

Very fraternally yours,

JOHN WANAMAKER.

Chairman, Committee on Library.

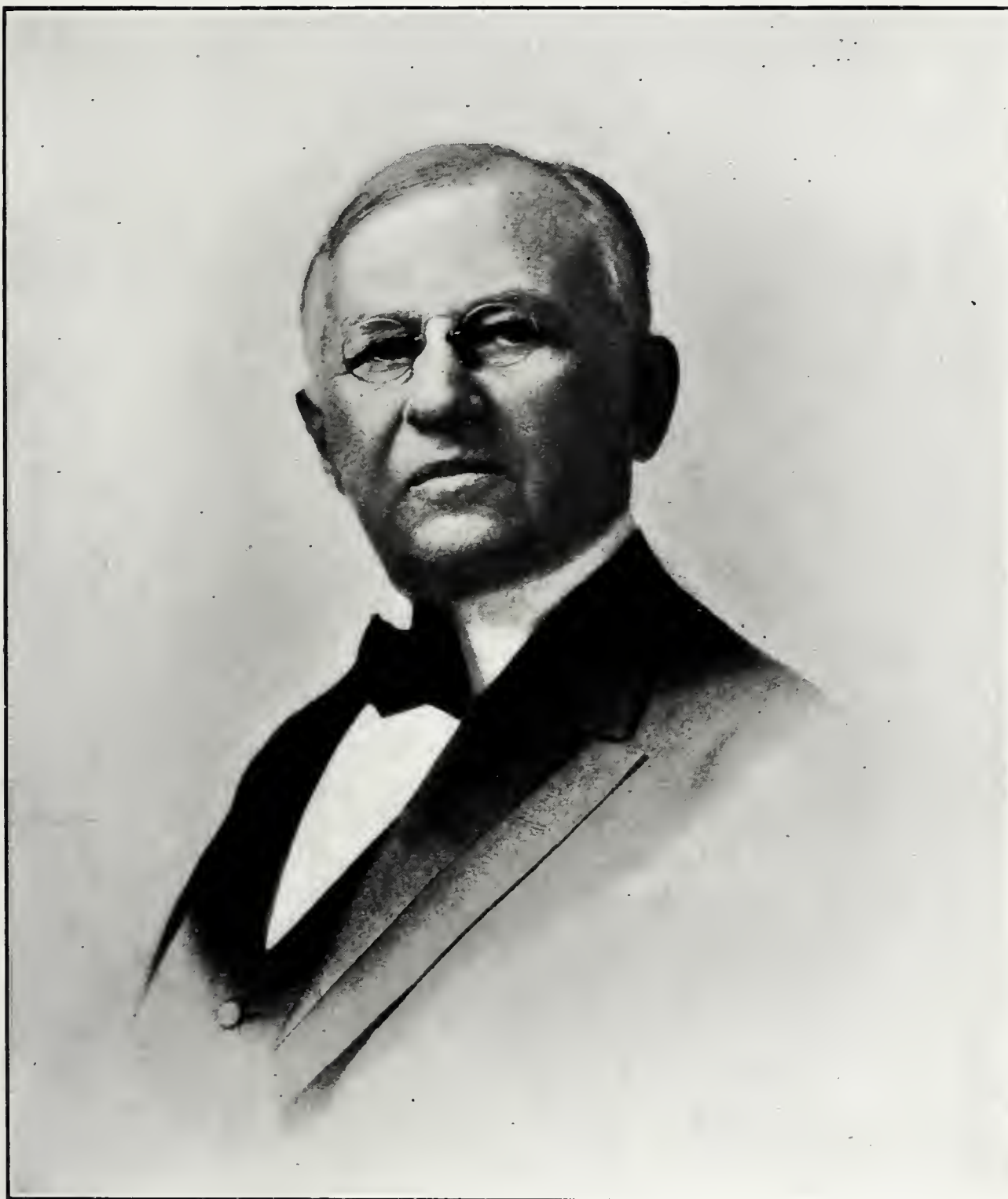
PHILADELPHIA, PA., October 18, 1916.

MR. HARRY G. KAMMERER,

3714 N. 8th Street,

Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir and Brother: It gave me great pleasure to receive yours of the 13th inst. inviting me to at-



Yours very truly
John W. Hamaker

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

tend the Golden Masonic Anniversary of Brother Julius F. Sachse, on the 23d inst.

As I am in the same class with Brother Sachse and value him as a near friend, it will give me great pleasure to accept the kind invitation contained in your letter provided my engagements in Court on the 23d inst. will permit me to attend.

I regard him not only Masonically, but as a citizen, as without a superior amongst men and his fellows, and you do well in honoring him thus. Not only is this a Golden Anniversary, but the object of your consideration is of the purest metal himself.

Very fraternally yours,

HARMAN YERKES,
Committee on Library.

PHILADELPHIA, October 19, 1916.

BROTHER HARRY T. KAMMERER,

Worshipful Master, Columbia Lodge, No. 91,
F. and A. M.,

3714 N. 8th Street, Philadelphia.

Dear Sir and Brother: It will afford me great pleasure to attend the meeting of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, on Monday evening, October 23, to assist in doing honor to Brother Julius F. Sachse and other brethren who are celebrating their golden Masonic anniversary.

Thanking you very kindly for your invitation and

Historical Sketch

trusting that all the brethren may have as pleasant a time as I anticipate, I remain

Fraternally yours,

J. LEE PATTON,

Committee on Temple.

October 14, 1916.

COLONEL J. WARNER HUTCHINS,

1328 Walnut Street.

Dear Sir: Mr. Harry G. Kammerer writes me concerning the Golden Anniversary of Mr. Julius F. Sachse as a Mason, and requests my presence on that occasion in the Ionic Hall, Masonic Lodge. It will give me great pleasure to accept the invitation, and be present on that evening, Monday, October 23, at 7 o'clock.

I should address this to Mr. Kammerer, but his address is not on the kind invitation, hence I send it to you.

Very fraternally yours,

J. GRAY BOLTON,

Grand Chaplain.

October 18, 1916.

MR. HARRY G. KAMMERER,

Worshipful Master, Columbia Lodge, No. 91,

F. & A. M., Masonic Temple, Broad and

Filbert Streets,

Philadelphia.

Dear Sir and Brother: I regret exceedingly that it will be impossible for me to meet with Columbia

Columbia Lodge, No. 91

Lodge on October 23. Just at this time I am taking part in the campaign and called from one place to another, and I could not make an appointment for Monday night because of this condition.

Regretting exceedingly that I cannot be with you, and wishing Brother Julius F. Sachse long life and prosperity, and felicitating him upon his Golden Masonic Anniversary as a member of Columbia Lodge, I beg leave to remain,

Fraternally yours,

GEO. S. GRAHAM,

Trustee of Title to Temple.

PHILADELPHIA, October 16, 1916.

COL. J. WARNER HUTCHINS,

Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir and Bro.: I am in receipt of a letter from Brother Harry G. Kammerer, Worshipful Master of Columbia Lodge, to attend a meeting of the Lodge on the 23d inst., for which I am much obliged. I did not answer Brother Kammerer's invitation direct, as he did not give any address in his letter, and trust that you will extend to him my thanks.

Unless something unforeseen happens to prevent, it will afford me great pleasure to be present at your Lodge, and witness the presentation to Brother Sachse of the pleasant surprise in store for him and several of the other brethren.

Historical Sketch

Again thanking you for your invitation, I am,
Yours fraternally,

THOS. W. AYERS,
Grand Lodge Charity Fund.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., October 14, 1916.

MR. HARRY G. KAMMERER,

W.M. Columbia Lodge, F. and A. M.

My Dear Bro. Kammerer: Your very kind invitation to be present on the occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of Dr. Julius F. Sachse's Masonic life received. I contemplate with great pleasure the privilege of meeting with the Brethren of Columbia Lodge and sharing in the congratulations of these "good and worthy" Brethren. I will (D. V.) be with you.

Fraternally yours,

WM. B. CHALFANT,
Grand Chaplain.

20th October, 1916.

COL. J. WARNER HUTCHINS,

1328 Walnut Street,

Philadelphia.

My Dear Col.: I am in receipt of your kind invitation to visit Columbia Lodge No. 91 on the occasion of the golden anniversary of P.M. Bro. Julius F. Sachse. It will give me much pleasure to accept and offer my congratulations to one whom I feel has been the most important factor in gathering together books and data, thus producing the best Masonic

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library and collections of emblems extant, and providing much knowledge and information to those interested and being of incalculable benefit to Free Masons in general.

With assurances of fraternal regards, believe me my dear Col. to be yours sincerely,

JOSEPH M. REEVES,
Past Master of Lodge No. 51.

October 19, 1916.

MR. HARRY G. KAMMERER,
1328 Walnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir and Brother: I have your very kind letter of the 12th inst., inviting me to attend a meeting of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, on the 23d inst., when the golden Masonic Anniversary of Brother Julius F. Sachse will be celebrated.

I appreciate most highly your cordial invitation to be present upon this most interesting occasion, and it is with great regret that I am compelled to decline because of other pressing engagements.

Fraternally yours,
J. WHITAKER THOMPSON,
Grand Lodge Charity Fund.

October Nineteenth,
Nineteen Sixteen.

Dear Sir and Brother: I have much pleasure in acknowledging receipt of your favor of October 17,

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1916, and note that Brother Julius F. Sachse will celebrate his golden Masonic Anniversary, as a member of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, on Monday, October 23, 1916.

In reply I have to advise you that a meeting of our Executive Committee on that evening will prevent me from being present, but I wish to thank you for your invitation, and at the same time extend my hearty congratulations to Brother Sachse, upon the completion of his Fiftieth Anniversary, and to wish for him many years of continued usefulness to the Fraternity, and of health and happiness for himself.

With kind regards, I remain,

Fraternally yours,

N. FRANKLIN HECKLER,

Superintendent Masonic Homes.

TO MR. HARRY G. KAMMERER,

3714 North Eighth Street,

Philadelphia, Pa.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., October 13, 1916.

Dear Sir and Brother: Thank you very much for your kind invitation for Monday, 23d, and it will give me great pleasure to be the guest of Columbia Lodge on that auspicious occasion, unless I am prevented by absence from town being there. I had expected to be away, the last week of the month, but I think I can arrange it so as to be here, and I cer-

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tainly hope to be present on that evening. Thank you very much for the kind thought.

Your fraternally,

CLEMENT B. NEWBOLD,

Chairman, Committee on Finance.

HARRY G. KAMMERER,

Worshipful Master,

Columbia Lodge, No. 91, F. and A. M.

MR. JULIUS F. SACHSE,

Care Columbia Lodge, No. 91, F. & A. M.,

Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, Pa.

Worshipful Sir and Dear Brother:

From the above letter-head, it may interest you to know that there is another Columbia Lodge F. & A. M., located in Newark, and that in it there is also a Julius Sachs, its Secretary for the past fourteen years.

This co-incidence is brought to my attention by a notice sent to me by a former member of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, of Phila. (Mr. Morris Scheck, now a member of Columbia Lodge 176 of Newark) in which it is stated that Brother Julius Sachse P.M. will read a short historical lecture, etc. on this date, being the 50th Anniversary of his raising. I desire to send my felicitations and hearty congratulations to Worshipful Brother Julius F. Sachse of Philadelphia, sincerely hoping that he may live a long life of happiness and that the Grand Master of the Universe may grant him many more years to enable him to further cele-

Historical Sketch

brate his advent into Masonry, of which the writer is a sincere adherent.

I hope it may be the pleasure in the near future of Julius Sachs of Columbia Lodge of Newark to personally meet W. Bro. Julius F. Sachse of Columbia Lodge of Philadelphia.

With kindest fraternal regards, I am

JULIUS SACHS,
*Secretary Columbia Lodge, No. 176,
Newark, N. J.*

Regrets and congratulations were also received from P.G.M. Hon. J. Henry Williams, Bros. Thomas B. Smith, Mayor of Philadelphia, Charles E. Roberts, J. Willson Smith, Thomas R. Patton, Andrew H. Hershey, Lancaster, Joseph E. Morcombe, Storm Lake, Iowa, H. M. M. Richards, Lebanon, Pa., and Alexander B. Andrews, R.W. Grand Master of North Carolina.



